

THE SAFETY DAY EVENING POST

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TO E.—E.

A Reply.

FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

Do I love thee? Do I love thee?
Ask the roses of my cheek,
Burning brighter 'neath thy glances;
Hav, what does their language speak?
Is it not that I am thine?
Is it not that thou art mine?

Do I love thee? Do I love thee?
Read the answer in my eye;
In the trembling of its lashes;
In each low love breathing sigh;
Say they not that I am thine?
Say they not that thou art mine?

Do I love thee? Do I love thee?
Read the veil from off my heart,
See if 'mid its secret places
There's a spot where you're no part;

There's written I am thine,
There's written thou art mine.

ELIZA.

THE WHITE SLAVE.

A Tale of the Mexican Revolution.

WRITTEN FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST,

BY EMERSON BENNETT,

AUTHOR OF "ARTHE'S BRIDE," "PHANTOM OF THE FOREST," "PAIRIE FLOWER," "CLARA MORELAND," "FORGED WILL," ETC.

[Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1866, by Emerson Bennett, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the United States, in and for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.]

CHAPTER XXX.

THE ALARM AND ITS CONSEQUENCES.

Weak from fatigue, breathless from haste, and laboring under the most intense excitement, I reached the dwelling of Don Luis and demanded admittance.

"Has your master returned?" I inquired of the porter who opened the gate.

"The Señor will find him in the hall," replied the old domestic.

He was proceeding, with the garrulity of age, and indolence, to add what else he knew, when I astonished him by darting abruptly away, and bounding up the stairs, three at a time.

On reaching the *Sala Grande*, or Great Hall, I was surprised to find a large collection of ladies and gentlemen, with most of whom I had the honor of some slight acquaintance through previous meetings and introductions. They had met here, at short notice, to pass the evening in a lively and agreeable manner, and at the moment of my entrance, some three or four musicians were tuning their instruments, preparatory to the opening of the *Teatro*.

On seeing me, some half-dozen ladies and gentlemen, nearest the door, sprang forward to greet me with the warm cordiality peculiar to the Spanish and their descendants, and immediately I found myself embraced by one after another of both sexes, with as much apparent affection as a fond parent could bestow upon a child.

"Ah, truant!" cried the pretty *Lola de La Casa*, as she tripped gallantly up and threw her fair arms unreservedly about my neck; "where have you been?" Holy Virgin of Guadalupe!" she exclaimed the next instant; "you are very pale! you are ill!"

"I am excited, *Lola*. I am the bearer of startling news—let me speak to your father without delay!"

"Here he comes!" she said, looking quickly around and stepping back a pace.

Almost at the same instant, Don Luis, Don Manuel, and my friend Maitland, came hurrying up from the other end of the hall.

"My dear *Ned*, where have you been?" cried *Curry*. "I have been alarmed at your absence."

"So have we all, *Señor*!" said Don Luis. "But you are ill, my friend! you can scarcely stand" he added, almost in the same breath, placing his arm under mine, to support my tottering frame.

"Quick!" said I, "take me to a private apartment; I have strange and startling news for you all!"

Leaving the assembled guests in a state of excitement—concessions to the rumor which flew quickly around the hall, that I was the bearer of some terrible news, the nature of which none could conjecture—I was conducted in all haste to the library, where, with a tremendous hand, the host presented me a cup of wine, which he had caught up on his way thither.

"Drink!" he said. "It will give you strength."

I poured it down at a single draught, and then motioning my friends to close the door, I threw myself into a seat, and told my story in as few words as possible. Each listened in breathless silence, and Don Manuel became deathly pale as I unfolded the scenes of the adventure to rob his dwelling, if not to protect his daughter.

"The villain!" he exclaimed, starting up and clutching his hands; "they shall pay dearly for this! And to think I have spied, if not members of the infernal band, in my own household!

"Ah! glory to San Marcos, my patron saint, for this wonderful preservation! God bless you, Don Edmundo!" he continued, throwing his arms around my neck and warmly embracing me; "you are an instrument, in the hands of the holy saints, for saving your friends. Not a word of this to any one!" he pursued; "we must act quickly and secretly. Our friends will wonder—but not matter. Come, La Casa, let us command the bandits with all speed! we shall find him at head-quarters. Will you come with us, *Senor*?"

"I fear my friend is too ill," replied Maitland, glancing anxiously at me; "and unless I am of service to you, gentlemen, I will remain with him."

"I regret to say I am much exhausted, and do not feel able to accompany you, *Senor*," replied I, "though my more than life is staked on the issue. I have but one word to add—which may seem presumption in one of my years—but the intensity of hope and fear compels me to warn you to exercise the greatest caution—if, as I suppose, you are not only about to attempt to thwart the designs of the robbers but to capture the leaders at least of the two bands."

"Trust me, if they are bold enough to make the attack to-night, to-morrow's light shall see them in iron!" replied Don Manuel. "There is time enough, if we hasten, to get a file of soldiers within the walls before midnight; and then woe to all who enter my grounds for an unlawful purpose!"

"The lives of my friends depend upon your success," rejoined I.

"And the safety of society," added Don Luis.

"I have not time to make known my plans," said Don Manuel; "but, by San Marcos! with the intelligence you have brought me, Don Edmundo, the villain shall have credit if they escape their just deserts! Adios, *Senor*."

"God be with you!" ejaculated *Curry*. And the moment the others had left the apartment, he turned to me and exclaimed: "Ned, this is most wonderful! and I am superstitious enough to believe you have been guided by something more than mortal. But come, you must be beth and to sleep—for another night of wakefulness and excitement may prove fatal to you. I would like to converse with you on this wonderful occurrence, but I see you are not in a condition to hear it. Ah, how strange! how strange!" But, God be thanked! you know *Bentita* is safe for the present; and if your friends succeed in getting these villains in their power, her liberation will be sure to follow."

"Then I was indeed ill!"

"Yes, Ned," replied my friend. "I called him in after you had fallen asleep, and he remained with you the greater part of the night."

"Indeed, *Senor*, I may say you have had a narrow escape!" rejoined the Doctor; "but, thank God, he is the Virgin! you are now out of danger; and allow me to wish you happiness till we meet again."

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and a dark, bronzed complexion; but his face had now a sallow, sickly hue, and was much contorted, like one suffering extreme physical pain. He glanced around him with a nervous, tremulous eye, which had no sooner fallen upon the prisoner, than he seemed to grow more pale and nervous, and to shrink back as it were into himself. He was followed by the black mask, who moved slowly and steadily behind him, like grim death seeking for a new victim.

"It is one of the robbers, who has just been put to the tortures and is about to confess," whispered Don Luis to me.

"Let the Court be cleared of all who are not here in an official capacity!" said the Alcalde, in a loud voice.

"We shall have to retire," observed Don Luis.

"Is such the custom when a prisoner turns King's evidence?" I inquired.

"Not always—it depends somewhat upon the humor of the Alcalde, and much upon the policy of keeping secret the revelations of the criminal. In this case, for instance, it may be necessary that the testimony of this man should not be made public, lest in some of those present there should be a confederate, who, by communicating with others, should defeat the design in view of liberating your friends."

"Ah, I see!"

"It is not so in your country," pursued Don Luis, "as we are relieved from the court-room; 'for your courts are always free, and your criminal trials by jury; but here we have no juries, and the decision of one or two men settles the case, whether civil, criminal, or martial.' In military affairs the *Commandante General* is supreme in his prudence; in ecclesiastical affairs, the Bishop; and in civil affairs, the *Alcalde*; all subject, of course, to the still higher authorities at the seat of government; but each manages his affairs pretty much as he pleases, and there is seldom an appeal from his decision."

"And is the torture a common thing?"

"It is often resorted to, and is often abused," replied Don Luis. "Ah, here comes his Excellency, the *General*, Don Jorge Valera," he added, stepping respectfully aside, as the officer in question, a fine, noble looking gentleman of middle age, in company with some three or four of his staff, issued from an opposite door and came quickly across the hall toward the court-room.

"Your servant, Señores," he said, touching his cap as we lifted ours. "We are doing a fine work here, Don Luis," he continued, "and if these *Adorables* escape us, they shall have credit for being the smartest villains in Christendom. Don Edimundo, we owe you much for the service you have rendered us, and we hope in some measure to repay you by a liberation of your friends."

"If your Excellency can only accomplish that, I shall be your debtor for life," I replied.

"Everything is in train, Señor."

"May I inquire when you expect to send troops to their rescue?" said Don Luis.

The General laid his finger on his lips, and, with a smile and a bow, was about to pass on, when I for a moment arrested his steps.

"Pardon me, your Excellency, for taking the liberty at this time to see a great favor."

"Command me, Señor," he said, blandly, though I fancied he looked a little impatient.

"Could my compassion and myself, or even myself alone, be permitted to accompany you?"

"I will consider, Señor, and let you know Adios!"

With a graceful bow to each, he hurried on and disappeared within the Hall of Justice, followed by his staff, who respectfully saluted us as they passed by.

"Come, friends, let us return to dinner, and wait the course of events," said Don Luis.

The distance in his manner was something like a mile, and leaving now the Plaza, and passing our way through the still excited crowd, we walked leisurely home, conversing upon many matters of most deep interest.

At about five o'clock in the afternoon, I was hurriedly summoned to the gate by a servant, where I found a mounted and armed of the *Comandante General*.

"You will hold yourself in readiness to march to-night, Señor!" he said.

"And are you compassionate also?" I inquired, as he withdrew his musket-like sword.

"I have many orders for Don Edimundo," he replied, and, with a slight smile, he spurred his horse and rode rapidly away.

"Ah, God be thanked!" I ejaculated. "I had perhaps but a few hours more, and was to be with her at the moment of her liberation."

The long ride had been bound with joy, and I hastened to communicate the good news to my friends, who shared in my delight.

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The long ride had been bound with joy, and I hastened to communicate the good news to my friends, who shared in my delight.

"I will consider, Señor, and let you know Adios!"

With a graceful bow to each, he hurried on and disappeared within the Hall of Justice, followed by his staff, who respectfully saluted us as they passed by.

"Come, friends, let us return to dinner, and wait the course of events," said Don Luis.

The distance in his manner was something like a mile, and leaving now the Plaza, and passing our way through the still excited crowd, we walked leisurely home, conversing upon many matters of most deep interest.

At about five o'clock in the afternoon, I was hurriedly summoned to the gate by a servant, where I found a mounted and armed of the *Comandante General*.

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THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

3.

South American Civilization.

WRITING FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST,
BY COSMO.

CACAOS—ITS PRINCIPAL PROPERTIES—MOUNTAIN SCAFFS—SINGULAR SURFACES—INDICATIONS OF MINERALS—PAHINA'S SHANTY—PROPOSED MINING—O'HARA'S PROTEST—THE BIRRA—ROCK RIDGES.

Some one having written something of the South American plant Cacao—*Hypocratea Cacao*—has either written of what he did not quite understand, or, which is quite as likely, he has himself been misunderstood, and the press laying hold of the thing wrong and first, are everywhere presenting it to the public in a paragraph calculated to make the error universal. Here is the popular paragraph, which, having read, let us go look at the Cacao itself:

"A Peruvian plant, the Cacao, has been found by experiment to possess the property of quelling the sensations of hunger and thirst for several days. The plant appears to narcotize the nerves of the stomach and suspend the digestive functions without any nutriment."

All a mistake, except that the Cacao, "not Caca," does quell, or rather changes the sensations of hunger and thirst from very disagreeable sensations to sensations every way pleasant. But the sensations do not remain several days, nor many hours, unless the Cacao quid is renewed.

All the members of our party were habitual Cacao eaters for several months, and in more than one instance it stood us in good stead of more substantial alliment, so that we mastered, I believe, the character and qualities of the plant generally, but always remained ignorant as to the manner in which results so singular and important were produced by causes seemingly so insignificant.

Promising that Cacao is no more a Peruvian than it is a Chilean, Bolivian or Ecuadorian plant, it being indigenous to all these countries, I would observe that although some five or six of us had seen the plant before, and were somewhat familiar with its properties, it was only on our journey towards Potosi that we became practically and personally acquainted with its singular properties and strange effect upon the animal system.

Everywhere, after the first day's ride from Mount Altevista eastward, we found the plant common all along our route; it was only at considerable distance back from the thoroughfare that we found it in perfection, as the plants more convenient were always plucked of their foliage by passing travellers, so that little more than the bare, ragged branches remained. In its perfection, the Cacao is a pretty, symmetrical little shrub, not exceeding about five feet in height, having light green, silvery surfaces leaves, in size, shape and texture very like those of the common sage.

Green, the leaves produce very little apparent effect; but dried, and a leaf or two placed in the mouth and chewed, the effect is almost instantaneous, and as remarkable as its powers are mysterious. As a preventive of hunger and thirst it is in all cases a specific, warding off and putting back their approaches, and even when one has begun to suffer from want of food and drink, the simple chewing of half a dozen dried leaves and swallowing the saliva acts at once and like a charm.

The chewing of Cacao in this manner certainly does ally thirst for a time, but it does not suppress hunger. It only arrests the craving for food and changes the disagreeable to most delightful sensations. Under its influence one feels nothing of hunger or fatigue for some six to ten hours, nevertheless it is just as ready to eat and enjoy a hearty meal, or lie down and rest and sleep at any time, as if there was not a Cacao leaf in existence. There is no narcotic principle in the plant, and though undeniably a stimulant, it produces none of the effects of vinous or alcoholic drinks, nor a symptom of a sensation like those begotten of the use of opium, hashish, &c. There are no mistakes, as is usually the case with tapers or stimulants persons. Under the influence of Cacao, one does not imagine that he can face impossibilities, wade through fire, run up a perpendicular rock, &c., or stay a thousand men with the jaw bone of an ass. But he knows that he is uncommonly comfortable for several hours, though hungry as a shark and dry as a codfish the whole time, only he does not feel the least inconvenience from either hunger or thirst.

We found, after becoming Cacao eaters, that after getting our breakfast and to saddle by sunrise, and then by taking to chewing the leaves about the time we had been in the habit of taking dinner, we always went on feeling till supper time, feeling neither hunger, thirst nor fatigue, and thereby we saved a good deal of trouble and time in cooking, as well as in provisions, though our poor horses were certainly the sufferers of our new practice.

Having passed the river and valley of Coquinga, we began to ascend among the spurs of the Sierra de Potosi, at each successive mile the surroundings became rapidly more rugged, broken, and in their general characteristics entirely different from anything we had seen before.

The English of the Spanish comes in now, and if the Spaniard who first gave the name of the Sierra de Potosi to the range of mountains, had taken his name from such shapes as we were chancing to among, it is certain he was not obliged to draw very strongly upon imagination. The shapes suggestive and making the name appropriate.

As a rule, these spurs jutted out from the side of the main range in waters of four or five, radiating or diverging like the rays of a sun, wheeling the distance as they ran down at an angle, to carry us across towards the lower country, their sides broken into ravines and black chasm, towards their base, while higher up they become less broken, bare of trees, and along the crevices moulded by teeth interlaced, regular and distinct, as at intervals there are outward gaps, and at the distance of a few miles one of these spurs turns very far and crosses over the next, diagonally or end with every fifth or sixth tooth checked out.

Between them diverging spurs the surface ran into all manner of queer vagaries—mountain pyramids, and sharp, fantastic peaks, as if when all these semi-vertical valleys were one day in a state of fusion, and having a grand jolt, too, tumbling, spattering and spouting up into all those fantastic peaks and points, a whole Pacific of cold water had been dashed down upon them, hardening their heads into

gray and green, red, brown, black, blue and all intermediate shades of rock in a second.

It was always the popular opinion among the Peruvians, and accepted as correct philosophy by their conquerors, that wherever the surface showed such evidence of having been so violently agitated while in a state of fusion, and then so suddenly cooled, deposits of the precious metals were invariably to be found underneath. Upon this theory both Peruvians and Spaniards always acted, and dug for gold and silver with almost universal success. If at any time they did not find the buried treasure, it was because subterranean streams of water interfered and drowned them out, or because, as they argued, the deposits lay below their possible depth of mining.

Certain it was that this rough sierra region had been in early times, both Incas and Spanish, a favorite mining district, and both history and tradition assert that vast amounts of the precious metals were obtained in all these localities. Everywhere we found surface indications of the existence of mineral wealth, as iron, antimony, copper, tin, and frequent traces of gold and silver; and often we came upon pits and shafts, some by the wayside, others shown us by our guides in rocky ravines and at points almost impossible of access, high up on the sides of the rugged spaces. One great quartz hole had thrown up all around it to the distance of five hundred yards, cones and mounds, like monstrous salt hills, of earth excavated and thrown out in sinking to an unknown depth the immense

appliance the abandoned silver mine might be made literally productive.

For two days we continued to zigzag by seats traverses up hill, often going two leagues horizontally in gaining a single mile of direct ascent. But at last we got above the roots of the spur, coming to the main sierra, which assumed features essentially different from the cross-cut toothed territory below. A mighty round, running nearly north and south, brown, almost black in places, frowning, desolate, in half its western surface bare rocky walls, broken through by tumbling torrent, towering in frequent instances into inaccessible. To black buttresses, along the base of which wound our various serpentine way, frequently the path being for a mile or more a mere shelf of rock, narrow in places that riding single file, on one side the outstretched hand would touch the wall of rock, towering perpendiculars—perhaps overhanging hundreds of feet above the head, while the opposite foot would swing along and over the very verge of a chasm down into which gazing one could only see a black, bottomless gorge with the white flashing of the mountain torrent, where crashing roar was descended in the immense depths to a low, monotonous growl.

Pleasant pastime—scenery particularly interesting, especially to a party of lady equerrians. But such are some of the necessities of crossing the Andes.

Fashionable Summer Life in English Country Houses.

Ordinarily, the manner of life is somewhat in this wise: Breakfast from nine to ten, guests dressing down and grouping themselves as they please, generally at three or four different tables. At half past ten or eleven the shooting and hunting-parties start or the cricket-match begins. In the meantime the men stroll about the grounds with a cigar or visit the stable and the kennels, or join the ladies, who draw, or work, or read the papers, or gossip in the drawing-room, or on the carpet and cushions on the lawn, under lime or chestnut-trees, if the day is warm enough. Then croquet parties are generally going merrily and briskly until the time the morning papers have arrived and perhaps some new guests, and there is talk of anything that has happened in politics or society. Dinner at eight or thereabouts, and afterwards in some houses a service, adorned with silver and driven in long trains down the passes towards the sea.

Tradition encloses the silver romance with the story of how a terrible tempest of wind, rain, thunder and lightning suddenly came on, containing four days and nights, occupied with awful shocks of earthquake by which great cliffs and chaunes were rent in the rocky ravines and sierras, dispersing the troops of treasure-bearers, men, women and animals, who fled with their precious burdens and died in tragic consternation, while the red bolts of heaven's artillery struck dead, and the yawning rents swallowed up and buried deep in the fiery bowels of the mountains the intrepid Spaniards. At the same time fierce volcane flames leaped up from the great silver shaft, licking up Padilla, and his fellow plunders, together with immense piles of precious ore accumulated near the shaft, and waiting transportation to the coast. Every Spaniard perished by the terrible wrath of the inferno, and the Indians, male and female, and every llama within a circuit of fifteen leagues were pressed into the service, laden with silver and driven in long trains down the passes towards the sea.

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THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

"Friday let it be," said the chemist, as he made a note in his pocket-book. "A man and boat shall be waiting for you at 10:30 A.M. at Finger Bay—rather an out-of-the-way place, by the by.—Oh, you know it, do you? Then that's all right.—And now, here we are at the station."

When Mr. Brackenridge reached home that evening, his first words to his sister were: "Send down to the *Hand and Dagger*, and tell Jerry I want to see him."

"Jerry is here, waiting for you," said Hannah.

"What brings him here, I wonder? But send him in, and leave us together."

Brackenridge and Jerry were very good friends; indeed, it was through a well-considered liking for the son that the chemist had won his first step in the affections of the master. Jerry looked up to Brackenridge as to a man of unlimited knowledge who wielded the power of life and death in the shape of terrible drugs; and who could, if he were so minded, cause any one who offended him to wither away and die in some mysterious manner.

He came slouching in, in his usual shame-faced way, twirling his hat between his fingers, and seated himself on the extreme edge of a chair, in obedience to the chemist's bidding. Brackenridge had studied Jerry's peculiarities, and waited till the lad had swallowed a cup of tea, and devoured a couple of muffins, before asking him a single question.

"Well, Jerry, my man, and what has brought you up here?" he said at last, as the lad proceeded to rub his sleeves across his mouth.

"Pipanta is ill, and Jerry wants a charm to make her better."

"What is the matter with her ladyship?" asked the chemist.

"She refuses to eat; she refuses to dance when her lord plays sweet music; she is no longer glad, but very, very melancholy."

The chemist turned from the table, and sat staring into the fire for a full quarter of an hour, without speaking. Jerry meanwhile sitting patiently twirling his hat, but with a furtive eye on the plate of muffins, moment by moment growing colder on the table.

"Jerry," said the chemist, turning round at last, and speaking in a solemn voice, "Pipanta is not ill—she is enchanted."

A low cry escaped from Jerry; he half started up in his chair, and then sat down again, trembling violently.

"Yes, enchanted, cursed by a magic spell," repeated Brackenridge. "Katafango, the great magician, has cast an evil eye upon her. Pipanta will never recover, unless—" The chemist paused, and looked earnestly at his half-wined companion; but Jerry had not sufficient sense to fill up the hiatus with the question which would have come naturally to the lips of any one else, and, Brackenridge waited in vain.

"Umph," he resumed slowly and impressively—"unless Katafango, the great magician, were to die. In that case, Pipanta would certainly recover."

"Oh, tell me!" cried Jerry, starting up, "where does this great magician live?" Jerry will go to him, and will pray him on his knees to spare the life of his lovely Pipanta."

The chemist laughed a loud, scornful laugh. "You don't know what you would ask, my poor lad," he said. "Katafango is king of the Toads; and where Pipanta dwelt, he will take her soul, and put it into the body of a poisonous toad, and it will remain a toad for ever. And that Toad will follow the same fate as the pipa on them both."

The lad started up, his mobile lips quivering with white passion, and his blue eyes all aglow. He stood up behind Brackenridge's chair, and laying a long thin finger on the chemist's arm, said in a sort of shrill whisper: "Jerry will kill him."

"Hush! my poor boy, you must not talk in that wild way," said Brackenridge soothingly. "Do you know who he is—the terrible magician? You see him nearly every day."

"No! Who?" said Jerry in an eager whisper.

"He who lives next door, who makes the sun take pictures for him—the tall man with the long black beard." Jerry fell back a foot or two in dismay. "What stranger but he," continued Brackenridge, "ever played with Pipanta as he played with her the first time he saw her? It was then he cast his spell over her. Lovely Pipanta must die."

"Pipanta shall not die!" exclaimed Jerry, all glow with nervous excitement. "Give Jerry some of that nice white powder out of the jar on the top shelf in the shop, and Jerry will mix it with what the magician eats, and he shall die. Hoo, hoo, hoo!"

"Nay, nay, Jerry, my man, that would never do," said the chemist. "We cannot prevent Pipanta dying, unless—" And again he paused, and looked earnestly at Jerry. "Listen to me," he resumed. "He of whom we have been speaking is going on Friday to the island of Machallow, and I want you, Jerry, to row him across."

"Want Jerry to do it? No, no, no, Jerry dare not."

"That, man, he has no power to harm you, or I would not ask you to go with him. But to make everything safe, I will give you a charm which I have in store, packed up in an iron chest, with which you may set at defiance all the enchanters and witches in the world.—And now, come nearer. I want to talk to you seriously. You must be at Finger Bay on Friday past ten on Friday morning. I will come there, and you will row him across to the island. And now attend carefully to what I am about to say, and with that, the chemist's voice sank to a whisper. Jerry, sitting motionless by his side, drank in his words eagerly.

Half an hour later Brackenridge himself left Jerry out by the front-door, and then stood listening to the ad's increasing footsteps, as he went off to the south. "A decent thing to do," muttered the chemist to himself, "and I'm not going to think it now." And as he turned to go indoors, he heard with a shudder the faint sound of Jerry's weird laughter far down the road.

An article in a London magazine dilates on the palatable quality of steaks from Buos and tigers. It is not certain about buos, but it is said that those who "fight the tiger" rarely get their steaks.

EP There is an editor in North Carolina with seven bullets in his body—received in duels and street encounters. His paper ought to be called the "Bullet-in," and contain all "loaded matter," remarks an eagle-dove.

EP On Good Friday, in a town in North Wales, an elderly minister with a bold page judiciously selected for his text: "My sins are greater in number than the hairs on my head."

THE WIDOW OF PISA.

BY PAUL HEYER.

TRANSLATED FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST,
BY AUBREY FORESTIER.

"Altogether it seems to me that you hold too favorable an opinion of the Italian women."

"How so?" I asked.

"I have read some of your novels. Well, you yourself must confess that these Arribates and Ansines are rather more sparingly seen in the South than the credulous reader is likely to imagine. By-the-by, just between ourselves, are these creatures of your imagination, or studies from life?"

"Exact copies of the Nature which would hardly consider its originals could gain anything from my improvements."

"That may be! But still you cannot deny that you have purposely selected the best specimens? You must not grumble either if people come to call you an Idealist."

"Grumble! Why should I? That would place me in such good company that I should rejoice were I tolerated there. Besides, most worthy friend, in the strictest confidence, let me tell you: I have never introduced a personage who did not possess some amiable qualities; moreover, never a female character with whom I was not in a certain degree in love. Wherefore should I trouble myself in the realms of Poesie with what was indifferent or repulsive to me in everyday life? There are enough others who delight in painting the dingiest scenes. Let each one go his own way."

"That sounds very fine, and is perhaps true! I don't understand these things myself, but I have always heard it said that ladies should reflect life as from a mirror. Well, then, life has also its reverse side, and to truth both lights and shadows belong. Do you not think that it is a duty you owe to truth to take notice of the less charming creatures who must surely exist even in Italy?"

"If I were writing a book upon the character of the Italian people—certainly! But I am only writing tales. Now, pray, whom am I desirous but such as choose to deserve themselves, if I prefer choosing subjects to please myself by giving shadows from the reverse side of Nature? But you make me curious about your reverse side. What have you to say about it?"

"Hm! That is not so easily told. If I am not mistaken what attracts you to these women is their unapostolic Nature, their want of exaggerated, tame, board-school training, in a word their native freshness."

"Not to forget the noble race from which they have sprung, and those rich endowments which render training much less necessary than it would be to a needier nature," I added.

"That, of course, understood! I will grant you that the passions assume a certain grand form beneath those skins, a natural sublimity, even the most intense ones; yet, that even the chief passion of the sex—as well as this on the other side of the mountains—with all its laughableness has a touch of grandeur."

"The chief passion?"

"I mean the mania for husband-seeking. Who? I can tell you that since I had an opportunity of making my own studies upon this point, I look upon it as no jest."

"It is upon this very subject that I am curious."

"Then I shall not withhold from you the adventure—although I know it can afford no useful material to an Idealist like you. First, though, I must get some fire from our grate. "Un peu d'huile, et il sera plaisir, Monsieur!"

This dialogue took place one beautiful summer evening, upon the top of a French diligence which was being dragged up the broad road of "Mont Cenis" by two horses and fourteen mules. Although the sky was bright with stars, but a faint light was shed upon valleys below the mountain road, shaded as they were by the thick foliage of the ancient trees, so that the passengers must give up all hope of enjoying the prospect. And, as the cracking of whips, the cries of the postillions, and the hundredfold jangling of the bells would not permit sleep, a poor German author could not otherwise than content at finding three thousand feet above the level of the sea as good a name as any in a spirit of all differences of opinion, as neighbor seemed to be. We had travelled.

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"Well, then, perhaps after all you know my widow either by sight or by hearsay. Have you ever passed a house with green shutters in the broad street called Borgo, and heard from a window upon the second floor, a Soprano voice singing that Duet from Norma?"

"Ah, then we are all creatures!"

I replied in the negative.

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"Then, then Providence," he said with a sigh that seemed to come from a heavy heart. "You see this color

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act 12-41 Proprietor of Higley Hotel, R.R. 1, G.

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MARRIAGES.

EP Marriage notices must always be accompanied by a responsible name.

On the 12th instant, by the Rev. Dr. Howe, the Rev. Prof. W. H. Vinton, of Middlebury, Conn., to J. A. Weston, daughter of Wm. Weston, Esq., of this city.

On the 13th instant, by the Rev. Dan'l Washburn, Mr. Lawrence L. Orton, of New York City, to Miss Jessie A. , daughter of Wm. B. Turner, Esq. of this city.

On the 13th of Sept., by the Rev. W. T. Rice, Mr. Samuel Dyer, to Miss S. J. Rice, both of this city.

On the 13th of Sept., by the Rev. Wm. H. Wood, Mr. Wm. H. Wood, of New York, to Miss Lucy B. Wood, daughter of Mrs. Susanna L. Wood, of this city.

On the 13th of Sept., by the Rev. A. Mansfield, Mr. Samuel Dyer, to Miss Harrietta A. Powers, both of this city.

DEATHS.

EP Notices of Deaths must always be accompanied by a responsible name.

On the 13th of Sept. Charles Alexander, in his 70th year.

On the 14th instant, Henry M. Tracy, in his 70th year.

On the 1st instant, John Richardson, in his 77th year.

On the 1st instant, Mr. Nathan S. Varnum, aged 81 years.

On the 11th of Sept., Mr. James F. Lincoln, aged 72 years.

On the 11th of Sept., Thomas Abbott, in his 80th year.

On the 11th of Sept., George E. Smith, in his 20th year.

On the 12th of Sept., Mary Miller, in her 80th year.

On the 12th of Sept., Sarah Pollard, in the 11th year.

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